Attorney Docket No. 01582/LH

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant.

: Yasuteru TAKAHAMA et al.

Serial No.

: 09/955,357

Filed

: September 19, 2001

For

: INVERTED MICROSCOP®

Art Unit

: 2872

Examiner

: M. A. Robinson

Confirm. No.: 9871

Customer No.: 01933

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION TO NO 703-872-9306

TOTAL PAGES: 15

I hereby centify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents Office on the date noted below.

Marilyn Stules

Dated: March 1, 2004

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the nucessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not londered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee to Account No. 06-1378.

## AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - GROUP 2872

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents U.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

SIR:

This is responsive to the Final Office Action dated December 1, 2003, the term for response to which expires March 1, 2004.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY